No financial assistance is being received from World Bank for combating Hepatitis A/B/C.

Health care facilities to Senior Citizens

4111. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps being taken by Government to provide adequate health care facilities to senior citizens of the country; and

(b) the details of proposals formulated, so far and being implemented by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) A national policy on Older Persons was brought out in 1999 and subsequently various steps were taken by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment for implementation of the policy. These steps, *inter-alia*, also include the steps taken to provide adequate health care facilities to senior citizens of the country.

Patients treated under NTCP

4112. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of patients treated under National Tuberculosis Control Programme during the last three years vis-a-vis its target for the relevant years;

(b) the reasons for utilization of only 13 to 27 per cent grants by the District Tuberculosis Control Centres; and

(c) the fresh steps taken for proper implementation of the programme all over the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Under the National TB Control Programme

(NTCP), the number of patients detected and put on treatment during the last three years is as under:

Year	Case detected & put on treatment
1999	1,098,051
2000	898,807
2001	666,853

There are no targets for treatment success rate under NTCP. However targets & achievements with regard to treatment success rate of new sputum positive cases under Revised National TB Control Programme (RNTCP) are as under:

Year	Total cases treated	Target treatment success rate of new sputum positive cases	Achievement
1999	53,343	85%	83%
2000	95,091	85%	82%
2001	185,178	85%	84%

(b) As the Revised National TB Control Programme was a new strategy for which the districts were required to undertake a large number of preparatory activities, there was slow utilization of funds initially. However, with the passage of time utilization of funds has shown a rising trend. This has improved to 71% as on 31.12.2001. Some funds must be available at all times to ensure all activities continue to take place.

(c) Fresh steps taken for proper implementation of RNTCP are as under:

(i) Rigorous monitoring of the Programme through quarterly performance reports from the project districts and supervisory visits by the officers from the State Government.

(ii) Decentralization of management of State.

(iii) Involvement of NGOs, Private practitioners and Medical Colleges to increase coverage.